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consume and of the pleasures they enjoy, which has provided something like nine-tenths of the revenue. When it is possible to look back upon a successful experiment, it is always of interest to ascertain the determining factors, and how far each affected the result. The reader should understand at once what is due to Chinese labour and enterprise in the evolution of the Federated Malay States.

Equally as just and appreciative is the author in his valuation of the Malaysans, whose confidence the Government has gained in a marked degree by making the promotion of their welfare the first consideration, and consulting their chiefs on all affairs of importance. Of the administrative capacity of Malayan rulers, he holds a high opinion. Amongst the Têrak chiefs, men with wide influence and of great authority, there are not a few who have proved their ability to hold high office. There are earnest and capable Râjas, loyal and energetic chiefs, in all the States, and it would be wrong to regard the Malay as a negligible quantity in his own country. The three most prominent Râjas were in no sense the product of English education. None of the three ever had any experience in an English school, but all of them learned much by a keen observation, by a desire to serve their country, and by a close association with British officers in all that has been done to bring the Malay States to their present position:

A Far-Eastern race which can produce men like these,

concludes the author,

who, under such circumstances, develop principles as high as those which guide the best Europeans and strive to live up to them, is not to be despised or dismissed as useless. "We have learned by long experience, by our own blunders, and by such success as has attended our venture in Malaya, that when you take the Malay—Sultan, Râja, chief, or simple village head-man—into your confidence, when you consult him on all questions affecting his country, you can carry him with you, secure his keen interest and co-operation and he will travel quite as fast as is expedient along the path of progress. If, however, he is neglected and ignored, he will resent treatment to which he is not accustomed, and which he is conscious is undeserved. If such a mistake were ever made (and the Malay is not a person who is always asserting himself, airing grievances, and clamoring for rights) it would be found that the administration had gone too fast, had left the Malay behind; left him discontented, perhaps offended, and that would mean trouble and many years of effort to set matters right again. All is well now, and a reasonable consideration for the people of the country will keep it well. The danger is that the legitimate aspirations of a people who are too reserved to complain aloud may be overlooked. If this record, with its lessons of the past and the experience of a long and close intimacy with Malays, serve to warn others to avoid that danger, the purpose of the book is gained."

If only the administrators in other Asiatic colonies would make a study of this book and take to heart its golden rules!

B. L.

**La Colonisation hollandaise à Java. Par Pierre Gonnaud.** Paris, Augustin Challamal, Editeur, 1905.

The literature on Java is rich in excellent monographs. Junghuhn has described it from the standpoint of the natural scientist, Raffles from that of the historian, Veth from that of the Dutchman. To these standard works Gonnaud has added another, whose main object is to present the colonial features of the island, to investigate the physiographic foundations, the antecedents, and the character of the Dutch colonisation in Java.

Among the physiographic traits, the one that seems to have impressed most deeply the majority of writers on Java is its volcanic character. But it has been over-emphasized, to the neglect of other, no less prominent, features. While the older formations constitute only about 1% of the surface, the Tertiary plays a part just as important as the volcanic deposits: 99% of the soil consist of Tertiary, Quaternary, and volcanic rocks, but only 28% of the ninety-nine belong to the latter.

The principal volcanoes are arranged on two, in Preanger on four, parallel ridges. . They form the backbone of the island, but do not divide it symmetrically: the road from Cheribon on the north coast to Bandoeng on the south shore goes uphill from the former during nine miles of its length, but descends to the latter on the southern slope in one. In addition to this, the north shore faces one of the most densely-populated regions of south-eastern Asia, while the south shore looks out upon a lonely sea. For these two reasons, the geographical opportunities of the two parts of the island have always been different. The coastal plain on the north shore received the overflow population from its continental neighbours and offered them all that was necessary for the foundation of new and lasting settlements, and has, therefore, been the stage of almost all the colonial development of the island. In his treatment of the climatological and biogeographical features of his subject, the author succeeds very well in stating the difference of such treatment by a scientific, or a colonial, geographer. His chapter on the climate of the island emphasizes the influences of the same on the colonists, and that on the animals and plants has been written to show the animal and vegetable *resources* of the island, not the animals and plants for their own sakes. In characterizing the climate as a tropical, maritime climate, he says, in concordance with many others, that it would be less fatal for the colonist from temperate zones if he would live more reasonably and live on the healthier uplands rather than on the dangerous coastal plain. The two climatic factors which determine the climate of Java are the excessive insolation and the monsoons. The excess of light, even more than that of temperature, enervates the white man; the atmospheric humidity adds to the depressing effect. Both air and soil are saturated with moisture, the water of the tropical rainstorms cannot be absorbed by either, it runs off over the impermeable volcanic rocks as well as over the alluvial soil whose limit of saturation has been reached. Thus devastating torrents intersect the south slope; while on the northern, where the grade is less, the rivers carry enormous masses of detritus, which form large bars at their mouths. From north to south, therefore, the rivers create lines of traffic; from east to west, they are obstacles to it. Wherever their waste water is collected in reservoirs, they furnish an abundant supply for the irrigation of rice fields. On the flora and fauna little can be said, because the endogenous character of the same is almost entirely a matter of guessing. It will probably never be ascertained how many of the plants and animals have been introduced by the various colonisations that have succeeded each other on the island. Among the existing plants, a division into a lowland, plateau, and mountain flora can be made; it is less pronounced among the animals, on account of their greater freedom of locomotion. Generally speaking, the prominent feature of each is its unparalleled abundance; and this is also the most important one for the colonial geographer, because this very wealth of the island has, from the earliest times, made it the object of the colonial aspirations of its nearer and farther neighbours.

The native Javanese came from the mainland *via* the Malaccan peninsula. They were an agricultural race and founded numerous small feudal states all over the country. They were superseded, after heroic struggles, of which the native legends relate, by the Malays, who, as a people of skippers and traders, occupied the coast and the lines of trade along the large rivers, while the natives retreated to the interior. Having purely mercantile interests, they never established any formal political power, but Javanese and Malays supplemented each other as the geographical developers of the island; the former raised the crops

that constituted its wealth, the latter established its connection with the outside world. To this division of labour the Hindoos, upon their conquest of the country, added an established social order, and they brought along with them their superior civilization, which enriched the language, literature, and general intellectual status of the inhabitants. These three influences; the original Javanese, the Malay, and the Hindoo, have produced together the native character with which modern colonisation has to deal.

Contrary to these, the Mohammedans during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries established states of a religious and mercantile character. They parcelled the land out to individual families, the families were united into groups under chiefs, the chiefs formed groups of their own under the Sultan. Their influence on the language did not, however, go beyond expressions relating to Mohammedan worship and law; the Malays alone gave up their alphabet in favour of the Arabian letters, so that the original Malay language became extinct. The Chinese who succeeded the Mohammedans did not come as conquerors; they were, as they now are, forced to emigrate through the over-population of their own country. There, as elsewhere, they remained strangers in the new country; they kept apart from the rest of the population, always looking forward to a return to their native land, where they had left their wives. They came as merchants and, through their skill in financial operations, have become the "Jews of the East," who loan money to the farmers and expropriate them when they can not pay their debts.

Of the Europeans who attempted to subjugate this motley population, the Portuguese came first. At the time of the maritime glory of Portugal, they extended their colonial possessions eastward beyond Goa by the conquest, one after the other, of the Javanese states. The possession of Java would have made them masters of the Indian Ocean; but the union of Portugal with Spain proved fatal to their plans, because the latter had political ambitions of her own, to which Portugal was made serviceable, and thus it was comparatively easy for the Dutch to take Java from them. After the closing of the Lisbon harbour to Dutch vessels, Holland had to look for new trading-places, and the superiority of her navy made her the mistress of those eastern seas. In 1602 the "*Algemeene geoctroyerde Oost-Indische Compagnie*" was chartered; it was a syndicate of pure exploitation, and monopolized the trade with Java to the exclusion of every other competitor. When it was dissolved, and the island placed under the Dutch Government, Java began to experience a more beneficial influence of European civilization. During five years of English occupation (1811-1816) many political and social reforms were attempted; but the inhabitants were not ripe for the blessings of a civilization which it had taken England centuries to acquire, and the only lasting result of this incident was the establishment in these seas of English colonial and commercial influence, which culminated in the occupation of Singapore. The Dutch, however, continued to build on the foundation laid by the English and, with an eclecticism that betrays a great amount of colonial tact or instinct, they have succeeded in working out a system of government which secures, likewise, the profit of the masters and the welfare of the subjects. The Dutch colonist brings to the island his capital and brains, which develop its resources, and the native furnishes the labour. This compulsion to work, which he would never accomplish if left to himself, benefits the native both materially and morally, while the political wisdom of his masters leaves his manifold political institutions undisturbed, satisfied to control them at a distance by means of offices which bind the native chiefs to the Dutch Government. As long as this order of things prevailed, the Dutch

power was safely established in Java. But philanthropic work which has recently been started among the natives and which tends to "educate" and "enlighten" them has greatly endangered the position of the Dutch; the claim that the servant is the equal of his master is being misunderstood here as on many other occasions, and what was meant for the good of the natives is fast developing into a menace to the safety of the established power. Considering the comparatively small resources of the mother country in case of a rebellion, this appears to be a more imminent danger than the rivalry of the other Powers interested in the Indian seas.

M. K. G.

**A History of the American Whale Fishery. By Walter S. Tower.**

(Publications of the University of Pennsylvania, Series in Political Economy and Public Law, No. 20.) x and 145 pp., Appendices and Index. The John C. Winston Co., Selling Agents, Philadelphia, 1907. (Price, \$1.50.)

The book treats very adequately of a former great industry in the United States. Other histories of the American whale fisheries have been written, but none of them is so complete as this work in its statement of essential facts. The book, moreover, does not merely record events, but also shows the great influence of whaling, in its day, as a social and economic factor. It gives a comprehensive view of the origin and growth of the fishery from Colonial days to the present time, introducing the subject with a chapter on the origin of whaling in Europe. In the later chapters Mr. Tower tells of the ups and downs of the American industry and interprets the conditions which promoted prosperity or depression in it. All the available statistics and a bibliography appear in the appendices.

**Costa Rica. By José Segarra y Joaquín Juliá.** 655 pp. and Illustrations. Avelino Alsina, San José, 1907.

A comprehensive and popular description of Costa Rica, chiefly for the use of tourists. It treats of the geography, the resources, activities, and intellectual position of the country.

**Quelques Peuplades du district de l'Uelé. Fascicule I. Introduction. Les Ababua. Par Joseph Halkin.** 155 pp. D. Cormaux, Liege, 1907.

Dr. Halkin's book contains the responses from Europeans in the Congo to a list of ethnographical and sociological questions published by the Belgian Sociological Society; also extracts from the writings of explorers and ethnographers. The large amount of information concerning the Ababua is very methodically classified.

**The Oxford Geographies. Vol. III. The Senior Geography. By A. J. and F. D. Herbertson.** viii and 363 pp., 117 Maps and Diagrams and Index. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1907. (Price, 2s. 6d.)

This is the third and last book in a series designed to fit candidates for preliminary junior and senior examinations. The first book is largely descriptive, presenting definite pictures of the regions of the globe with an outline of the chief topographic features. The second or junior book presents a causal treatment of geography and gives special attention to the interrelation between the surface forms of the earth, climate, vegetation, and human activities. The third volume considers the world according to its natural regions, political and other divisions